

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

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TAGS: 0EXC

SUBJ: FY-74 STAG: TRACK COACH FOR JORDAN

REF: AMMAN 2734, AMMAN/FIELDMESSAGE NO. 5

1. IN VIEW RECENT DEPARTMENT CONVERSATION WITH MAL WHITFIELD RE. QUALIFICATIONS SUBJECT COACH DEPARTMENT PRESENTS FOLLOWING INFORMATION YOUR CONSIDERATION AND REACTION SOONEST.

2. WHITFIELD CONTENTION INCLUDES FOLLOWING POINTS:

JORDAN REQUIRES YOUNG DYNAMIC COACH CAPABLE OF DEVELOPING BALANCED TRACK AND FIELD TEAM FOR FORTHCOMING INTERNATIONAL AND OLYMPIC COMPETITIONS.

3. WHILE DEPARTMENT ENDORSES YOUTH OF COACH AND RAISING LEVEL OF TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES OF JORDAN'S NATIONAL TEAM AS NOBLE WE HAVE DIFFICULTY RECRUITING SUCH TALENT FOR LONG PERIODS DUE PROFESSIONAL COMMITMENTS. EXCEPTION MIGHT BE RECENTLY RETIRED INTERNATIONAL CLASS ATHLETE WITHOUT FORMALIZED COACHING EXPERIENCE IN U.S. HIGH SCHOOLS OR COLLEGES.

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4. DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT COACHES THAT WORK WITH AVAILABLE NATIONAL CLASS ATHLETES TEND TO IGNORE DEVELOPMENT CONCERNS OF OTHER CATEGORIES OF YOUTH. VALUE OF THEIR WORK IS EVIDENT IN HIGHER LEVEL PERFORMANCES OF SMALL NUMBER OF TALENTS AND TOO OFTEN EVAPORATES UPON THEIR DEPARTURE.

5. DEPARTMENT REQUESTED CANDIDATES FOR SUBJECT POSITION BE NOMINATED BY U.S. TRACK COACHES ASSOCIATION AND U.S. TRACK AND FIELD FEDERATION TO AVOID POSSIBLE CHARGES FROM PARTICULAR INDIVIDUALS AND OR INSTITUTIONS THAT DEPARTMENT CHOOSES FROM SPECIAL ROSTERS. OTHER CANDIDATES APPLIED INDIVIDUALLY NOTABLY MR. KIRK HALL FORMER USAF TRACK AND FIELD COACH. THRU THE PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION THE CANDIDATURE OF COACH BILL EASTON, UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS, INTER ALIA, WAS SUBMITTED.

6. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION FOLLOWS OF THE TWO TOP CANDIDATES:

MR. KIRK HALL 29 YEARS OLD 6 FEET TALL WEIGHT, 145 POUNDS, RECENTLY DISCHARGED FROM USAF AS RESERVE CAPTAIN. SEVEN YEARS ACTIVE DUTY. RAN MIDDLE DISTANCES AT AF ACADEMY AND UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA DAVIS. COMPETED WITH USAF TEAMS AND COACHED SAME FOR THREE YEARS. ACCOMPANIED USAF TEAMS TO INTERNATIONAL MEETS IN ITALY AND TUNISIA. CURRENTLY EMPLOYED AS AID TO CONGRESSMAN. AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER.

MR. M.E. BILL EASTON 70 YEARS OLD RECENTLY RETIRED FROM UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS. EIGHTEEN YEARS HEAD TRACK COACH KANSAS UNIVERSITY. HIS TEAMS WON THIRTY-NINE BIG EIGHT CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS AND THE NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES IN 1959 AND 1960. EASTON DEVELOPED THIRTY-TWO ALL-AMERICANS AND EIGHT OLYMPIC TEAM MEMBERS INCLUDING TWO OLYMPIC CHAMPIONS. COACHED FOUR TIME OLYMPIC CHAMPION DISCUS THROWER AL OERTER AND 1964 OLYMPIC TEN KILOMETER CHAMPION BILLY MILLS. ALSO DEVELOPED WES SANTEE GREAT U.S. MILLER OF 1950S. EASTON COACHED MEXICAN OLYMPIC TEAM 1968 AND SERVED GOM AS COORDINATOR FOR THEIR OLYMPICS. HAS COACHED NATIONAL TEAM OF MALAYSIA 1962. SUMMER 1973 WILL COACH NATIONAL TEAM OF PARAGUAY UNDER AUSPICES OF PARTNERS OF THE AMERICAS ORGANIZATION. AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER.

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7. WHILE EASTON IS SEVENTY YEARS OLD HIS VITALITY AND EXPERIENCE COULD BE DETERMINANT IN LAUNCHING JORDAN ON ROAD TO BALANCED DEVELOPMENT.

8. KIRK HALL DOES NOT BRING THE EXPERIENCE OR BALANCED TECHNICAL EXPERTISE TO THE POSITION BUT HAS YOVRH AS VEHICLE TO REACH TARGET YOUTH GROUPS. ADVISE DESIRED ETA.

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